

Russ Chew 1-800-FAA-NEWS Phone Message November 11, 2005

Hello, this is Russ Chew with this week's update for November 11th.

With customers as our main focus, this was a busy week for the ATO. We participated in the NBAA Annual Convention was held on Nov 9, 10, and 11. One particular area of interest to our business aviation customers is our recent achievements in implementing RNP/RNAV into the NAS. Jeff Williams, who manages ATO's RNP/RNAV Group in System Operations, took part in a panel on Special Aircraft and Aircrew Authorization Required procedures (or "SAAAR"), and the related approval process.

Jeff reported the crowd was standing room only, and his session lasted 35 minutes longer than scheduled. He said the updates on RNP/RNAV were very well received. I understand the Q&A session that followed was an educational experience for both the audience and the presenters. For our customers, it's obvious that RNP/RNAV is a key element in our NAS modernization efforts.

And our November S2K customer meeting was held Wednesday at the NBAA Convention. Through S2K, we meet with our customers to resolve specific, near-term tactical issues and initiatives related to traffic flow management through what is has generally been called "Collaborative Decision Making". This has helped us to handle more traffic than we had in the year 2000, with less total delay. And these customer meetings have been a key part in better managing traffic demand during the spring-summer thunderstorm, fall hurricane, or winter Florida seasons.

For our international customers, a new air traffic route from Latin America direct to points north is saving airlines thousands of pounds of fuel per flight. The new route reduces flight time about 10 minutes and saves airlines between 2000-4000 pounds of fuel per flight resulting in improved efficiency, better use of the airspace and environmental benefits. My thanks to Luis Ramirez, director En Route and Oceanic Safety & Operations Support, and his team for this customer achievement.

Finally, the FAA Administrator will discuss the FAA's strategic plan for leading the agency over the next five years on November 15th, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. EST, in the annual "State of the FAA" Town Hall meeting. The event is taking place in the FAA Headquarters auditorium and is being broadcast by satellite and teleconference.

The Administrator will touch on such issues as performance targets and goals, employee compensation, and the agency road map for the next five years. At the conclusion of the broadcast, employees will be able to discuss topics with the Administrator and FAA executives who will be at locations across the country to help field questions.

The event will be broadcast to the 69 FAA downlink sites and carried by upgraded MCI phone lines to facilities without access to the satellite broadcast. The toll-free number for questions is: 1-800-857-5737. I encourage you to attend and participate.

That's it for this week. Thanks for listening and I will talk to you again next week.